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The China Mail

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Contains this Week's News
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Price (including Postage) to any
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No. 16749.

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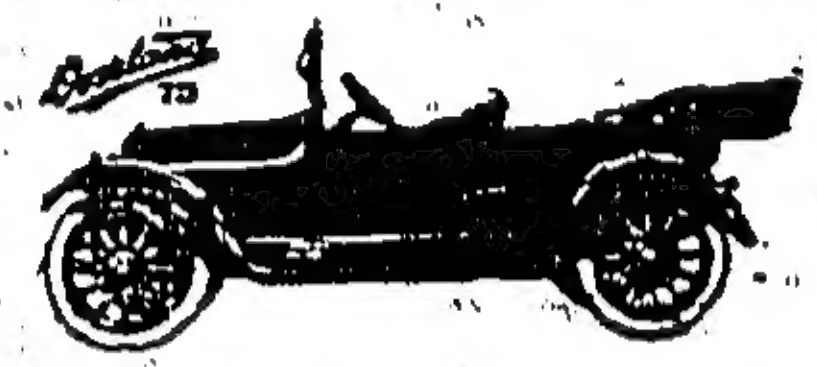
HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1917.

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Applicants will be required to produce
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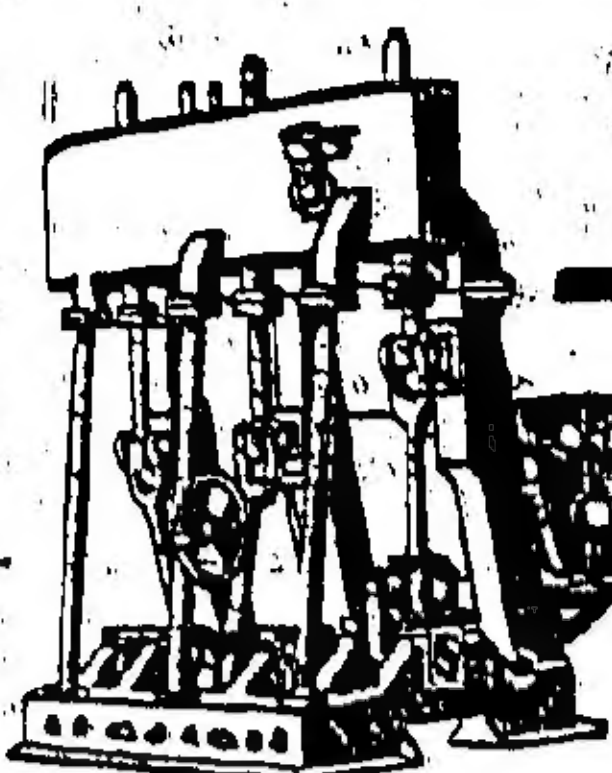
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Hongkong, April 11, 1915


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WONG PING WA, Manager.
Hongkong April.

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Telephones in all rooms. First-class Cuisine, Lounge, Smoking and Ladies
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ALL ELECTRIC TRAM, Pass Entrance,
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THE WAR.
LATEST TELEGRAMS.
(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

THE CAMPAIGN IN EAST AFRICA.
SUCCESSFUL BRITISH OPERATIONS.
—
London, Jan. 16.
Reuter's Correspondent in East Africa reports:
After the operations on the 1st inst. the enemy retreating towards Rufigi, fought a series of rearguard actions in a most stubborn manner. It was in one of these that Captain Selous was killed while pluckily leading the Fusiliers and Frontiersmen.
After that the enemy made no stand north of the river.
General Sheppard reached the north bank of the Rufigi on the 5th inst. The enemy took up a position on the south bank opposite an old German bridge, evidently expecting us to repair it and cross it. General Sheppard, however, crossed in boats higher up. The enemy on the following night bombarded the boats and attacked the Punjabis and Baluchis who held on in the pluckiest manner till fresh ammunition was sent up and the enemy's fire died away.
The rapid and accurate fire of the South African artillery greatly assisted the holding of the crossing.
Meanwhile General Beves made a wide flanking movement westward and crossed the Rufigi just below its confluence with the Ruaha, and proceeded to a post north of Mkalimbo, where he routed the enemy.
The performance of General Sheppard's brigade accorded with the highest traditions of the Indian Army, while General Beves' march was a brilliant feat of endurance.

SWITZERLAND MOBILISING.
MORE EXTENSIVE PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES.
—
Bern, Jan. 16.
The Federal Council announces that it considers it necessary to take more extensive precautionary measures.
Therefore it has ordered three Divisions to mobilise by the 24th inst., but the Council declares that it remains fully confident in the intentions of the belligerents towards the neutrality of Switzerland.

THE GREEK SITUATION.
ALLIES STILL NEGOTIATING WITH THE KING.
—
London, Jan. 16.
The Daily Telegraph's diplomatic correspondent states that the Allies are again negotiating with King Constantine. They forwarded on the 13th inst. their observations on the Greek reply of the 11th inst. They insisted on further pledges and refused to raise the blockade, but left the door open for further discussions.

A CONCESSION.
—
Paris, Jan. 16.
General Callaris, who commanded the First Army Corps, in the events at Athens on December 1st, has been placed on the retired list, being replaced by General Yannakides, who was Minister of War in the Skouloudis Cabinet.

GERMAN MILITARY AGENT IN GREECE.
—
Salonica, Jan. 16.
General (?) Falkenhayn landed from a submarine somewhere on the Greek coast, whence he proceeded to Larissa.

CHANGE IN EAST AFRICAN COMMAND.
GENERAL SMUTS ON THE WAR COUNCIL.
—
London, Jan. 16.
The War Office statement (mentioned yesterday) states that the Minister of War has instructed General Smuts to hand over his command as soon as the military situation permits.
It is realised that the larger issues at stake and the value of General Smuts' presence at the Conference are considerations which make his (the War Minister's) compliance with the wishes of the Union Government essential.
The military situation in East Africa is, fortunately, such as to make a change in the command and some reorganisation comparatively simple. The steps contemplated would be taken very shortly anyhow.
The statement at some length shows that in eleven months General Smuts has cleared the enemy out of German East Africa, except in a comparatively small and unimportant area. The enemy is now in reduced straits.

THE RUSSO-RUMANIAN FRONT.
ENEMY SET BACK.
—
London, Jan. 16.
A Russian official report, transmitted by wireless, states:
Southwards of Pales, the Russians and Rumanians advanced two versts.
The Rumanians beat back two night attacks southward of Rakova on Sushitza.
We bombed vessels in the Danube region of Brailov.
One of our submarines sank two ships near the Bosphorus.

GERMAN REPORT.
—
A German official report, received by wireless, states:—
Hostile attacks between Cassin and Susita Valleys were unsuccessful. A counter-thrust drove back the Rumanians who had penetrated at one point. We took 202 prisoners.
Our curtain fire broke down strong Russian masses repeatedly attacking from both sides of Fumani. The enemy's losses were great.

THE WESTERN FRONT.
ENEMY COUP-DE-MAIN EASILY REFUSED.
—
London, Jan. 16.
A French communiqué says: "An attempted enemy coup de main in the Somme region under cover of air-torpedo and gas-bell fire was easily repulsed. Our artillery vigorously replied."
(Continued on Page 2.)

The Chinese Mail
華字日報
1. LEADING CHINESE POLITICAL AND
COMMERCIAL JOURNAL.
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PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.
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CONTAINS THE MOST RELIABLE
TELEGRAPHIC NEWS FROM
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ALL THE LATEST INTELLIGENCE FROM
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& OYUBARI COLLIERIES,
AGENT FOR SAKITO COAL.

EASTERN EDUCATIONAL SYSTEMS.
A CHINESE ROVING COMMISSION.

Mr. Rose, who is at the Knickerbocker hotel, returned recently from a six months' tour of China, where he went to consult with members of the Chinese mission who were in this country last year. He says he has effected an arrangement with Chinese capitalists looking toward the opening of branch smoking rooms in important cities of both countries where products will be distributed, so merchants may order direct through the organization. To facilitate commerce the organization has incorporated a bank with \$1,000,000 capital under the laws of Georgia and is seeking a bank in Shanghai to handle the currency with a capital of \$10,000,000. The corporation will sell no stock.

Foreign educators always have recognised that China has her own peculiar problems to solve if the general education of the great mass of the people is to be brought about, but the Chinese say no foreigner has offered any adequate answer. Now the Chinese are endeavouring to find the answer themselves and on the work of the commission much of China's later educational methods may be based.

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Otaru, Muroran, Hakodate, Kobe,
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After a hard day's work, or after unusual physical exertion, take Morlicks, it helps Nature to tone up your system. It is the ideal Food-Drink—its ingredients are Wheat, Malt, and Milk, scientifically combined and put up in powder form in glass jars.

Delicious to the Taste. Made in a moment—no cooking.

Of all Chemists and Grocers in 3 sizes,
1/5, 2/6 and 11/- (in England).

**MORLICK'S
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ACETYLENE CUTTING AND WELDING FOR SHIP AND BOILER REPAIR.
Modern up-to-date plant operated by our own specially trained
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All classes of light Steel work manufactured by the above process,
Tanks, Drums, Ventilators, Pipes, &c., &c.

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In the man who has blood—
real, rich red blood and
plenty of it—in his body—

**WATERBURY'S
METABOLIZED
COD LIVER OIL
COMPOUND**

makes blood—lots of it—life
giving, brain nourishing,
strength replenishing blood.

**WHY NOT WAKE UP
FRESH & FIT?**

Pinkettes prevent morning headaches, dispel Constipation, cure biliousness, Torpid Liver, purify the breath.

PINKETTES

the dainty little, gentle-as-nature laxatives, are obtainable of all chemists, also post free 30 cents the phial, from Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., 96 Szechuen Road, Shanghai.

THE DIMENSIONS OF DOCKS AND SLIPS ARE AS FOLLOWS						
NAME OF DOCK OR SLIP	LENGTH OF KEEL BLOCKS	ENTRANCE HEADWAY	DEPTH OVER STILL AT ORDINARY SPRING TIDE	RISE OF TIDE		
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KOWLOON						
No. 1 Dock, Kowloon	777	100' 0" top 70' 0" bottom	30'	7'	6"	-----
No. 2 Dock, Kowloon	371	70'	15'	7'	6"	-----
No. 3 Dock, Kowloon	244	60'	14'	7'	6"	-----
Patent Slip, No. 1, Kowloon	220	60'	14'	7'	6"	-----
Patent Slip, No. 2, Kowloon	220	60'	14'	7'	6"	-----
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Jointure Wharf Dock	-----	60'	20'	7'	6"	-----
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Ships Dock	620	60'	20'	7'	6"	-----
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Please Address Enquiries to the Chief Manager, **R. M. DYER, B.Sc., M.I.N.A.,** Rawlson Dock, Hongkong.

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WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,

HONGKONG.

Telephone No 618.

To-day's Advertisements

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM EUROPE, COLOMBO AND STRAITS.

THE Company's Steamship "HITACHI MARU,"

having arrived from the above ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed and placed at their risk in the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves and Godowns.

Optional Goods will be carried on unless instructions are given to the contrary before Noon, To-day.

Goods not cleared by the 24th January, 1917, will be subject to rent, left in the Godowns for examination by the Consignees and the Co's representatives at an appointed hour on TUESDAY and FRIDAY.

All claims must be presented within ten days of the steamer's arrival here, after which date they cannot be recognised. No claims will be admitted after the goods have left the Godowns.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

Agents.

Hongkong, Jan. 17, 1917. 1423

AMERICAN-ASIATIC S.S. CO.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM NEW YORK.

THE Steamship "KIOTO,"

Captain J. A. Smith, having arrived from the above port, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed at their risk into the Wharf Kowloon, and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on MONDAY, 22nd inst., at 10 A.M.

All claims must be presented within FIFTEEN DAYS of the steamer's arrival here, after which date they cannot be recognised.

No Claims will be admitted after the 24th inst., will be subject to rent.

Consignment of cargo are hereby notified that they must produce an Import permit signed by the Superintendent of Imports and Exports, Hongkong, before Bills of Lading can be countersigned.

No Fire Insurance has been effected. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,

General Agents.

Hongkong, Jan. 17, 1917. 1424

(Continued on page 8.)

THE DIARY.

MEMO FOR TO-MORROW.

11 a.m.—Diocesan Girls' School, Prize Giving.

General Memoranda.

FRIDAY, Jan. 12:—

3 p.m.—St. Stephen's Girls' College Prize Giving.

SATURDAY, Jan. 20:—

Noon—Auction of R. C. "Kang Ting," at Messrs. Hughes and Houghton.

2.15 p.m.—Cricket; Volunteers Reserve on H.K.C.C. ground.

TUESDAY, Jan. 23:—

Chinese New Year. General Holiday.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 24:—

General Holiday.

THURSDAY, Jan. 25:—

Burns' Night.

FRIDAY, Jan. 26:—

6.30 p.m.—Meeting of Shareholders and Subscribers to St. John's Cathedral.

SATURDAY, Jan. 27:—

Entries close for Hongkong Race Meeting.

MONDAY, Jan. 28:—

H.K. Stock Exchange Settlement Day.

11.30 a.m.—West Point Building Co's Meeting.

11.45 a.m.—H.K. Central Estate Ltd's Meeting.

Noon—H.K. Land Investment and Agency Co's Meeting.

12.15 p.m.—H.K. Land Reclamation Co's Meeting.

MARRIAGE.

GORDON—LANGDON.—At St. John's Cathedral, Hongkong, on January 15th 1917, by the Rev. V. H. Copley Moly, JAMES MILLER, GORDON son of the late James Gordon, of Port Elizabeth, South Africa, to LILLIAN LEE, LANGDON, daughter of Captain C. Langdon R.N., Balham, England, and adopted daughter of the late Robert Hughes of Kobe, Japan.

The China Mail.

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, JAN. 17, 1917.

CHINA AND THE WAR.

BERLIN, doubtless, "badly needs cheering up," but it is difficult to see that China's Reply to the Note addressed by President Wilson to the Neutral Powers, with a view to bringing moral pressure to bear on the belligerents to seek a basis of negotiation, can afford Berlin any great amount of satisfaction. Most people but the Germans will perceive in China's intimation of her preparedness, after the war, to join in measures to relieve the nations from "the peril of wrong and violence" a subtle reminder of the circumstances under which Germany entered into the possession of Kiaochow, and steadily set about to dominate the whole province of Shantung. The Government at Peking, is not oblivious of the fact that after the war Germany is likely to concentrate a good deal of her attention upon China as being one of the few countries in the world which will afford the most freedom and scope for her future activities; but China also knows that it will not remain for her alone to see that those activities do not take again the form of "wrong and violence" that they took in 1898. In one respect, at least, China is right in declaring that "the war has probably affected her interests more seriously than those of other neutrals." The war was carried into Chinese territory and she has a deep interest, of course in the future of Kiaochow which is now held by Japan as one of the Allied Powers, in virtue of the right of conquest; but in the ultimatum which she sent to Germany she required the delivery to the Imperial Japanese authorities, without condition or compensation, of the entire leased territory of Kiaochow, "with a view to the eventual restoration of the same to China." In this respect, therefore, China may well claim to have a special interest in the war. In other respects China's interests have been "seriously affected by the war" only in that it has stopped the flow of foreign capital for the development of the country. Many great railway undertakings have been temporarily delayed on this account; but apart from this, China has suffered more from her own domestic disturbances than from the gigantic struggle in Europe. But for revolutions within her own borders China's finances would probably have been in a more flourishing state than ever they were before the great world-war. As it is, we have seen by the recently published official figures, the Customs revenue last year was a million taels better than it was in 1915, while the Salt Revenue, which a few years ago was regarded as worth only about thirty million taels, amounted last year to

sixty-seven million taels. Taking a general survey of the situation in China it can hardly be said that her interests have been more seriously affected than those of other neutrals. Neutrals, like the United States of America, have benefitted enormously by the war, and if China had had a strong, stable and progressive Government at Peking she, too, would have been able to regard the war, so far as her own interests are concerned, as a blessing in disguise. But advertising to the cheering effect which Count Bernstorff expects China's reply to have upon the German people, no one will be disposed to grudge them this crumb of comfort. Perhaps they will perceive the subtle humour in the statement that China will be prepared after the war "to join in measures for assuring respect for the principle of equality among the nations and to relieve them from the peril of wrong and violence." Is this not China's reply to the Kaiser's famous effort in the role of Prophet and Painter, immortalised in his great masterpiece "The Yellow Peril"?

NEWS OF THE DAY.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

Lung Kang Kwong, brother of Lung Chai Kwong, has been lavishly entertaining the Cantonese members of Parliament at Peking.

The late Captain Somme, whose tragic death was reported in last night's *China Mail*, was captain of the *Yokohama*, not *Hutchins*, as inadvertently stated.

The Committee of the Hongkong St. Andrew's Society has decided to hold a dinner, for members only, at the Hongkong Hotel on 'Burns' Night,' 25th inst.

A Peking telegram to-day states that the Cantonese gave a reception in honour of the Cantonese political leaders, Leung Chi Choo, Wu Ting Fang, Chan King Ming and Yao Yen Ping. Dr. Wu did not attend. The speeches betrayed the lack of political harmony among the speakers.

A Chinese woman aged 54, was knocked down by motor-car No. 14 yesterday, and on being taken to the Government Civil Hospital one of her arms was found to be fractured. The horn of the motor-car is stated to have been sounded several times, but this notwithstanding, the woman walked directly in front of the car.

It is stated in a New York telegram to Japan papers that President Wilson has ordered Rear-Admiral Austin Knight to take command of the Asiatic Fleet, his promotion to the rank of Admiral being gazetted at the same time. Rear-Admiral Albert Winterhalter, now Commander-in-Chief of the U. S. Asiatic Fleet, is appointed to a post in the War Affairs Bureau.

FOREIGN EDUCATION WANTED FOR THE DEPOSED EMPEROR.

A Peking telegram received to-day says that as the ex-Emperor Shun Tung is now twelve years of age, his teacher, Leung Ting Fung, is applying to the President for permission for the ex-Emperor to be sent abroad for his further education.

ST. JOHN AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION.

FIRST AID EXAMINATION.

At an Examination in First Aid held recently the following Saiping-pun School candidates were successful:—Au Kwong-wei, Chau Cheung-sui, Chan Kin-ting, Chan Man-kai, Chan Wai-chung, W. W. Fox, Fung Tik-ki, Hui Chung-ming, Kwan Lau-hin, Leung Po-wing, Li So-hung, Lo Moon-fook, Lo Yuk-kwan, Pun Lun-wing, San Wing-tong, Un-Hok-chui, Wong Fun-pui, Wong Hing-tung and Wong Lai-ching.

Dr. Chak Chi-hang, M.B., B.S., was Hon. Lecturer to the Class, and Dr. G. H. Thomas, M.B., B.S., acted as Hon. Examiner. All the members of the Class passed.

SOMETHING TO REMEMBER.

Buying a cough medicine for children bear in mind that Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is the best for colds, croup and whooping cough, and that it contains no harmful drug. For sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

THE MAGISTRACY.

ALLEGED THEFTS.

Charged with stealing two deer horns valued at \$300, twenty-three pieces of wild geese valued at \$1,000 and thirty pieces of native geese valued at \$100, consigned to the Kin Yuen Hong Import and Export Shop, No. 70 Lower Lascar Row, between Nov. 23, and Dec. 8, 1916, two Chinese were brought before Mr. C. D. Melbourne at the Police Court this morning. One defendant was sentenced to six months' imprisonment, the other was discharged.

ASSAULT ON A GODOWN KEEPER.

Two Chinese were charged before Mr. Wood with assaulting a godown keeper employed by the Bank Line. It appeared that a lukong in Reclamation Street, Yau-mat, yesterday saw the complainant being set upon by about ten junk people, a chopper being used by one. The victim was badly knocked about. The two men were each fined \$20.

"LUCKY MONEY."

"Only lucky money which my wife was taking to Canton to be used during the Chinese New Year," was the explanation given by a Chinese charged before Mr. C. D. Melbourne with attempting to export six silver dollars. The defendant was allowed by His Worship to keep the money and informed that it would be necessary for him to change it to notes or subsidiary coins if he wished to take it out of the Colony.

THEFT OF DRIED FISH.

A Chinese coolie charged with stealing a quantity of dried fish from the Kowloon Godowns where he was employed was brought before Mr. J. R. Wood. The defendant denied the charge but was convicted on the evidence and sentenced to one month's hard labour and four hours' stocks.

A SOLDIER'S SUICIDE.

An inquest respecting the death of Corporal John Bowley K.S.I.L. was held by Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistrate's Court this morning.

Messrs. J. W. Maxwell, W. Mansfield and I. de Souza composed the Jury. It was explained by the Coroner that the death took place on December 31st and he had asked for the enquiry simply that the matter might be put on record.

Captain Scales, who was with the deceased when he died, testified to seeing the deceased brought into Mount Austin Barracks on a stretcher and receive first aid. The deceased, who was suffering from a bullet wound in the abdomen and another wound in the right hip, was then removed to the Military Hospital. There he died, death being caused by the shock and internal hemorrhage.

Captain J. R. Hazelwood, testified that the deceased was apprehended on Christmas night on two charges, one of drunkenness and the other of striking a superior officer, after which witness did not see him until December 30, as he was remanded from day to day until that date, on which he was brought before the Commanding Officer, tried by Court Martial and again remanded. After each remand the deceased was kept in the guard room under the charge of the guard on duty.

Lieut. F. Oswald Parker testified that he had spoken to the deceased shortly before the shooting and that he had seemed quite normal and answered in a cheerful tone of voice.

Corporal Morris, who was corporal of the guard on the morning of December 31st, testified that on the night of the 30th the deceased had slept in the guard room and that he awakened him on the following morning at 7.45 o'clock. While he (Corporal Morris) was breakfasting at about 8.20 o'clock, one of the guards informed him that the deceased had shot himself. He immediately entered the guard room and found the deceased lying on the floor, shot in the side, a rifle lying beside him. The deceased was moaning and groaning, but did not speak at all. He was given immediate medical attention. Corporal Morris said that while the deceased was in his charge he appeared quite cheerful.

His Worship expressed the view that it was perfectly clear the deceased had taken his own life when suffering from mental derangement.

The jury returned a verdict of suicide whilst of unsound mind.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

12.30 p.m.
Steamboats 204 buyers
Indo Del 132 buyers
China Sugars 128 sales
Malabons 37 sales
Humbroves 6.50 buyers
Hongkong Ropes 34 buyers
Water Boats 15 buyers
Sisal Cottons 114 nominal

PRIZE DISTRIBUTIONS AT HONGKONG SCHOOLS.

BELLIOS GIRLS' SCHOOL.

Lady May distributed the prizes at the Bellios Girls' School to-day.

The 26th annual report, presented by Mrs. Tutecher stated,

During the year 1916 there were 193 school days. The maximum enrolment was 435, in March. The average attendance for the year was 384, an increase of 23 on the previous year. Fees amounted to \$7,972 as compared with \$7,600 in 1915.

The health of the pupils was good throughout the year, but there were many absentees in December on account of vaccinations, and the fear of smallpox. No case has occurred amongst the pupils so far as I am aware.

There have been more changes than usual in the staff. At the beginning of the year, the three Vernacular Masters who were responsible for the teaching of Chinese in the upper classes were transferred to Boy's Schools, and their places were taken by the Senior Mistresses. Four Vernacular Mistresses resigned for health reasons so that of the 18 Chinese teachers 7 are new. In the English Staff, one Assistant resigned, on her marriage, and no fewer than five mistresses secured more lucrative posts in offices and elsewhere, necessitating 6 new appointments in an English Staff of 13. All this has made the work of supervision much heavier than usual, but fortunately the appointment in the Spring of an additional trained and certificated mistress, who is responsible for the Remove Classes, relieved pressure in the Upper Department.

There were 28 candidates for the Local Examinations this year, the highest number we have yet had. Of the sixteen who entered for the Oxford Preliminary, fifteen passed. For the July examination of the Hongkong University there were eight Juniors, and four Seniors, and all passed—with thirteen Distinctions in Scripture, Needlework and Geography.

In connection with the Technical Institute, Miss Lai passed her final examination with distinction, and two past pupils, Misses Maria and Bertha Xavier, passed in Shorthand, also with distinction.

Early in February a class was formed in connection with the St. John's Ambulance Association. Dr. McGregor very kindly undertook the Lectures, and Miss Esther Kotevall, a former pupil of the school, gave lessons in bandaging. At the examination by Dr. Koch in April all the 17 candidates passed, the general average being reported very good. Stimulated by this success, and also because these Senior pupils really enjoy the teaching, they have lately taken a course in First Aid through the great kindness of Dr. Kert, who has given lectures at the school during the past two months. Eighteen candidates sat for this examination, which was taken by Deputy Surgeon General Draper, at the Royal Naval Hospital, and 16 passed. The thanks of the students concerned are gratefully given to these various Lecturers and Examiners. The subject has been exceedingly popular, especially with the Chinese pupils, with whom it has been the first introduction to Western methods of dealing with accidents and sickness. Judging by the aptitude displayed in the practical work, they ought to make excellent nurses, should such a field ever be opened up for them. The Cookery class which is still very popular, has been supplemented by a second class on Saturday mornings, at the request of those pupils who were no longer eligible for the elementary class, but who wished to keep up and improve upon what they had already learned. There has been great competition recently on account of prizes for Cookery generously offered by Mrs. E. B. Bellios, the widow of the Founder of the School. Eventually the prizes were allocated to 11 different pupils. Miss Lander and Mr. E. Ralphs very kindly acted as judges.

Class 4 received instruction in practical Laundry Work, and it is surprisingly short time were able to wash, starch and iron their own handkerchiefs, aprons &c. This subject can only be taught in the cold weather.

Physical Drill also can only be properly taught in the Winter season. The Mistresses first receive a course of instruction from Miss Henderson, the Second Mistress, and afterwards each teacher drills her own class regularly.

It is satisfactory to find that the school as a whole does not show any signs of weariness in well doing. Besides making themselves responsible for the maintenance of two small Chinese orphans in the Victoria Home and the

Foundling Home respectively they have during the past year made special efforts to help the funds of the Ministering League and the Red Cross Society, and altogether have succeeded in raising the sum of \$1,600 for different charities. One of the most enjoyable of school days was that on which by the kind permission of Dr. Gibson of the Netherlands Hospital, the small protégé of the Hongkong Branch of the Ministering Children's League was brought down, and all, under the charge of one of the nurses, so that she might participate in the joys of a Magic Lantern shown at the school. The small guest was not too ill to enjoy all the attention she received, and she out-rivalled the lantern itself in interest.

I must put on record my gratitude to all the members of the staff who have so ungrudgingly undertaken additional duties in this exceptionally strenuous year, and I should like to thank the Headmaster of Queen's College who has at various times granted permission to his chief vernacular master to come over and advise me in vernacular matters. I also wish to thank Mr. Sung himself for all the ways in which he has helped since he left the school.

In conclusion, we tender our very heartiest thanks to the following gentlemen who have so liberally contributed to the Prize Fund:—Hon. Sir Paul Charter, Kt., C.M.G., Hon. Mr. Lau Chu Pak, Sir Robert Ho Tung, Mr. N. J. Stabb, Mr. H. Humphreys, Mr. W. I. Tutecher, Dr. Kwan Sum Yin, Mr. Chau Siu Ki, Mr. Tak Cheong, Mr. Chan Siu Lam, Mr. Yeung Tze Wan, Mr. Mok Tao Chung, Mr. Lo Chung Kui, Mr. Mok Man Cheung, Messrs. Butterfield & Swire, W. G. Humphreys & Co., Shawan, Tomes & Co., Jardine, Matheson & Co., Linstead & Davis, Bradley & Co., Gibb, Livingston & Co., E. D. Sassoon & Co., Douglas Laprak & Co., Johnson, Stokes & Master, Lane, Crawford & Co., and Hughes & Heugh.

The Prize List was a long one, the principal prize winners being the following:—

CLASS I.—Kwan Fong, Kwan Hai Hing, Poon San Han, Julia Ahwee.

CLASS II.—Delminda Lopes, Aniza Lopes, Aurea Xavier, Fok Kum Yung, Chung King Yik, Florence Lyan, Mercedes Barretto, Tan Hon Ying.

CLASS III.—Laura Figueiredo, Sakina Alakinda, Wong Sau Tan, (Tung Lau Ngau, Tam Lai Sheung, Eunice Samy, Lucy Thomas Alda-Franco.

LADY MAY expressed the pleasure it gave her to come to the School again. She was glad to hear that 16 girls belonging to the school had passed the St. John Ambulance examination in First Aid, and she wished them success in their future examinations. One of the most useful things a woman could do was to learn how to nurse and care for sick people. Lady May added that she was very proud of the large branch of the Ministering Children's League that had been formed at the school under Mr. Tutecher's excellent guidance. They had worked splendidly for it and made the grand sum of \$1,224 at the Bazaar last year.

DIOCESAN BOYS' SCHOOL.

The Bishop of Victoria presided at the prize-giving at this school this morning.

Mr. G. Piercy, the Headmaster, in his report on the work of the school for the past year said:—The popularity of the School has continued, as is evidenced by the average daily attendance, 314, an increase of 23 on our previous record.

In accordance with the Government regulations all boys in Class I entered for the Hongkong Matriculation or Senior Local, all in Class II for the Junior Local, all in Class III were entered for the Oxford Preliminary. The following results are therefore, not attained by sending in only clever boys:—Hongkong Matriculation: entered 2, passed 2.—W. Thomas in Honours; Hongkong Senior, entered 13, passed 9.—T. Chan distinguished in Biblical Knowledge. 7 qualified for Matriculation. Hongkong Junior, entered 23, passed 19; 16 distinctions viz. 6 in Biblical knowledge, 4 in arithmetic, 3 in mathematics, 1 in geography, 1 in chemistry, 1 in book-keeping, 1 in Oxford Preliminary, entered 33, passed 31; Hongkong Matriculation (December), entered 2, passed 2; Fitman's Phonetic Institute, 28 boys earned Elementary Certificates.

Mr. Ralphs (Inspector of English Schools) made his annual inspection in June, when 328 boys were present. He reported "The School is doing very good work. The teaching is careful and energetic, the boys attentive and diligent." He recommended the maximum grant.

Twenty-four former pupils are at the University, and at the Union Sports at the opening of the New Pavilion, A. J. Kew won the Vice-Chancellor's Cup for greatest aggregate points: more than half the prizes were won by Diocesan old boys.

The Report related the successes of school at sports, and it also mentioned the great importance attached to the school to moral and religious instruction. A very satisfactory report of an examination of the upper classes in Scripture by the Rev. W. T. Featherstone was read.

HONGKONG UNIVERSITY.

MATRICULATION.—July. W. Thomas (Honour), A. E. Kew; December, Ernest Baker, A. G. Rapanakis. Senior Local.—Qualified for Matriculation: Wong Ka-tsun, P. Brown, C. Kew, A. Nomazeo, A. Sang, G. Kelly, Ho Chi-kin, T. Chan Sui-woo, Hung Wai-sang.

Junior Local.—J. A. Thom, F. Smith, A. A. Chenailoy, Yeung Kam-pun, Chan Tai-chouk, W. A. Mugford, Liou Wa-po, Chen Ki-wong, C. S. Rowalest, F. Stepe, C. E. Rathson, A. C. Rapanakis, G. R. J. Yowkey, H. W. Randall, Mc Chak-kai, K. A. Mason, J. B. McClymont, Chow Hong-to, E. Gourdin.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY.

PRELIMINARY LOCAL.—P. Ramsey, R. V. Dodd, H. J. Howard, Hung Kam-sang, She Shin-pui, Chin Si-hon, H. Fox, Ho Cheo-wing, Im Mok, Lu Po-shan, Lo Hon-wing, Loui Sun-tak, F. Prata, So Shih-pang, Tong Shau-yun, Ung Yau-chung, J. E. Young-way, Yuen Wul-ping, Chan Chau-lam, H. S. Hall, Ip Wai-sun, Kong Hin-chung, J. C. Leung, Ng Chi-chung, Pun Kwok-kin, Tang Mow-choi, Wan Lun, Wei Wing-chak, Woo Sing-ip, Yeung Min-fan, Wong Pan.

CLASS PRIZES.

Class I.—1. Ho Kam-long Scholarship \$600, C. Kew; 2. Wong Ka-tsun.

Class II.—1. Ung Yau-chung; 2. F. Prata.

Class III.—1. Kam Cheung-yat; 2. Ngan Chun-on.

Class IV.—1. Ho Cheuk-fai; 2. Chan Hin.

Class V.—1. G. Razavet; 2. C. Mac-kenzie.

Class VI.—1. Ng Long-sai; 2. Kam Cheung-fai.

Class VII.—1. Li Ka-pun; 2. Chan Shu-chung.

Class VIII.—1. Man-kwan; 2. Wong Po-sam.

Class VIIA.—1. Chan Kam-bon; 2. J. Fox.

VIII.—1. Edw. Sam-sing; 2. Tung Kwong-wing.

Class VIIIA.—1. Edw. Lee; 2. Li Kwai-wing.

Class VIIIB.—1. Wong Ching-tung; 2. Li Kam-ink.

A number of Special Prizes were also awarded.

Mr. A. H. HARRIS, Commissioner of the Chinese Customs, presented the prizes. In the course of a few remarks he said a great deal had been heard lately of education in the Colony. The general feeling seemed to be that English education in the Colony was not as good as it should be or as it was in the earlier days. He fully agreed with those sentiments. He urged all the students to first master the English language and said that if there was "cranking" in the schools, the masters ought to see to it that it was avoided. It was important that to see that boys in the lower schools were first thoroughly trained in all those subjects which led up to the higher schools, as this would make for a better all-round education. Referring to certain suggestions which had been made to the effect that the younger generation was lacking in the good manners which were exhibited in the old days, Mr. Harris said that was a matter that the masters should instill into the minds of students. He suggested to the boys that their motto should be: Conduct, not Culture, is three-fourths of Life, and when referring to "culture" he meant the word ending with "e" and not the word ending with "y."

SPORTING.

GOLF.

The draw for the Ladies' Championship is as follows:—

Mrs. Cary v. Miss Robertson.
Mrs. J. W. Stewart v. Mrs. Fletcher.
Mrs. Pearce v. Mrs. Miller-Jones.
Mrs. Hancock v. Mrs. Windham.
Miss Worters v. Mrs. Crawford.
Miss Wilkinson v. Mrs. Muriel.

Mrs. Matland receives a bye into the second round to meet the winner of the Cary-Robertson match.

Miss M. Hodges receives a bye into the second round to meet the winner of the Wilkinson-Muriel match.

The match is to be played on the big course at Fanning—the first round by 27th January; the second round by 3rd February; third round by 10th February; semi-final by 17th February and the final on Sunday, 18th February.

Rounds up to and including the semi-final to be played on week days during the times now open to ladies. The first named player in a match to make all arrangements with her opponent regarding the play-off match not being decided by the date the second named player in the match passes into the next round. This ruling will be strictly adhered

TELEGRAMS.

(Continued from Page 1.)

THE ITALIAN FRONT.

ENEMY HOIST BY HIS OWN PETARD.

LONDON, Jan. 16.

An Italian communiqué states: After long and difficult mining operations, the enemy exploded a large mine under our positions on the southern slopes of Mount Piccolo Lagazoli. Owing to counter-mining there was a tremendous explosion, but it did not affect our troops. On the other hand, the enemy's gallery collapsed and caused him very numerous casualties.

THE CREW OF H.M.S. CORNWALLIS.

ARRIVE AT MALTA.

MALTA, Jan. 16.

The crew of H.M.S. Cornwallis have arrived on board destroyers. They state that the Cornwallis was struck aft in the stockhold. She floated for two hours enabling all on board to be saved. Those missing perished in the explosion.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

THE WAR SITUATION.

POTENTIALITIES OF THE RUMANIAN SITUATION.

LONDON, Jan. 16.

General Mackensen's advance on Galatz is at present the most conspicuous feature of the fighting of this portion of the theatre of war.

A German communiqué states that the captured village of Valeni was the last place in the hands of the Russians and Rumanians south of the Sereth, but the notable successes achieved by the latter in the Moldavian highlands show that they are still most active west of the Sereth.

Galatz is only seven miles from Valeni and within gunfire, but the Danube and the Sereth must be crossed before the enemy are able to enter it, and the whole ground is marshy and difficult.

Though he has concentrated great forces fifty miles along the right bank of the Sereth from its junction with the Danube, General Mackensen has not yet attempted an assault on the main Russian position on the Sereth, probably owing to the severity of the weather. According to Petrograd reports, prisoners state that Mackensen's troops are in a most fatigued condition, and are ravaged by sickness and privations.

The lull in the other theatres is more apparent than real. The most strenuous preparations are proceeding in the rear of all the main fronts for resumption on a grand scale at the earliest possible moment.

Experts point out that the enemy will soon need all his resources for the West front, for a quick, powerful counter-offensive before the enemy has time to dig in may still transform the whole Rumanian campaign.

BULGARIANS BOMBARDING AROUND GALATZ.

LONDON, Jan. 16.

A Bulgarian official reports states: From the right bank of the Danube we bombarded railway establishments round Galatz.

CHEERING UP BERLIN.

CHINA'S REPLY TO PRESIDENT WILSON'S NOTE.

LONDON, Jan. 16.

With a view to cheering up Berlin at the adhesion of another Neutral Power to President Wilson's Note, Count Bernstorff (the German Ambassador at Washington) has transmitted to Germany by wireless the text of China's reply, in which she ventures to declare that the war probably affected her interests more seriously than those of other Neutrals. She is prepared, after the war, to join in measures for assuring respect for the principle of equality among the nations and to relieve them from the peril of wrong and violence.

CURE THAT COUGH.

WHEN you have a troublesome cough, it does not mean that you have consumption or that you are going to have it, but it does mean that your lungs are threatened, and it is just as well to be on the safe side and take Chamberlain's Cough Remedy before it is too late. For sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

SIR DOUGLAS HAIG.

(By "G. H. Q.")

In the following article one who has known the Commander-in-Chief a great number of years and who has had unique opportunities of personal contact with his unrivalled military capacity and generalship sets forth his great faith in the "man who can crack the Boche."

I am quite convinced that the most valuable military asset of this country to-day is Sir Douglas Haig, and at home it is high time that every man and woman knew the faith in the man who can crack the Boche which inspires every British soldier in France. It is high time that the soldier's faith spread to the soldier's home.

If any untoward thing should happen to weaken his present authority by reason of influences one need but hint at, I should regard it as the greatest possible national calamity.

I have known the Commander-in-Chief since the beginning of his great military career; in no modern instance has rapid promotion been more thoroughly earned and deserved. He holds the highest command in France to-day solely because he is the man of outstanding military ability one who throughout his life has paced Army matters first and everything else second.

Though always a keen sportsman he has invariably made sport subservient to duty. From his earliest days in the Hussars he has studied and mastered every work of military value published in any country.

It was in 1895 that he laid the corner stone of that knowledge which ultimately will be the undoing of the Boche. He was then a captain in the 7th Hussars, and after a long term of service in India got six months' furlough. Anyone else would have made of that furlough a well-earned holiday. Not so Haig—he spent the six months in Germany, living with German regiments and studying Continental systems of military science.

In the old Army it was a fashion to talk of the Haig luck. In reality it was the kind of luck that commands the help of Providence only when a man has fully helped himself. That is the secret of the Haig fortune—a striking and commanding personality allied to a genius for concentration. He leaves nothing to chance.

I remember during the first terrible battle of Ypres how he packed off his generals to bed at 8.30 of night, like so many recalcitrant children. "There's a big work to be done and you can't be at four in the morning without proper rest overnight," he would say. And he saw that his grey-haired generals went to bed too. Month in and out, moreover, he himself practices early habits.

There is little pomp and circumstance about G. H. Q. to-day; the keynote is simplicity and frugality. General Haig sets the pace. He is a non-smoker and takes only the most moderate amount of stimulant at the evening meal—nothing at any other time. There is no thought around him of night but the war, and all the staff are imbued with the Commander-in-Chief's singleness of purpose.

Advanced G. H. Q. is a simple country dwelling-house tucked away unostentatiously a few miles behind the British lines and within easy reach of a little French village. Domiciled here with Sir Douglas Haig are just three staff officers; the remainder are billeted in the neighbouring village.

It is a wonderful organisation, this war of Haig's. For purposes of G. H. Q. the Army is divided into certain partitions. To each one an officer of the staff is appointed, and it is his duty to have at his fingertips just all there is to be known about his particular army. Thus Sir Douglas Haig has at his side an intimate knowledge of the whole British front.

Up betimes in the morning, he repairs to his private study immediately after breakfast. Here he interviews his various heads of departments. Sometimes he remains hard at work there till lunch time; on other days, interviews over, he gets away early to one division or another. Here, again, one may note his innate dislike for military circumstance. There is little dashing about to-day in high-powered motor-cars, and Sir Douglas never enters one himself unless it is to take him to a distant part of the front which only petrol will achieve in the time at disposal. Very probably horses will have been sent on to an appointed place, and arriving there the chief will probably ride in to within three or four miles of G. H. Q., then dismount, and finish the return on foot. Seldom a day passes but he visits one of his corps commanders. I think the Commander-in-Chief makes it a special point to know by name as many officers as any one human brain can carry. Often have I heard expressions of amazement from some one or other who in passing has been addressed by name by Sir Douglas Haig.

Never has the British Army of all ranks had such a sublime—I had almost said blind—faith and confidence in its Commander-in-Chief. It is the leaven of faith of the First Army which has permeated the whole. For days and nights, which ran into weeks, during those awful days of the first battle of Ypres, when every man and the last cook from the field kitchens had been flung into the trenches, his contact with all ranks was of so close and intimate a nature that his presence among them has left an indelible impression.

The full story of those awful days has yet to be told, but I think I am breaking no confidence in telling to-day of General Haig's fervent conviction. Every ounce of British resistance was being strained to breaking point, every means that military genius—backed only by shell-furnished guns—could devise had been requisitioned, no human power could do more. "God alone can save us," were the words often on his lips, and no one to-day acknowledges more humbly that supernatural aid was accorded than General Haig himself. It was the help of God for a man who had helped himself.

Officers at his side say they will never forget those days along the Menin Road, shelled incessantly day and night, with General Haig. One officer states that while he can recall fearless horsemanship in the hunting-field and countless episodes during a long friendship of an iron self-control, it was on the Menin Road he learned untold things of his general's priceless nerve. As I will believe, it is the nerve of a superman who, maybe, has some intuitive, sub-conscious knowledge of things well done, founded upon a supreme and abiding faith in a God above. Without doubt he is a God-fearing man.

Not far from advanced General Headquarters there is a little French church, and every Sunday morning is held there a simple service, of the Church of Scotland. Sir Douglas Haig never misses that simple Sunday service.

He is a supremely just man. In regard to new commands and appointments no man was ever less moved by pressure or influence from without. He judges an officer solely upon the value of his military record, and in many cases from his own personal experience.

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I cannot recall ever having discussed literature in the lighter sense with him, but I never knew any military book ever mentioned in his presence that he had not mastered. Intimate knowledge of his own great antiquity, I might say his contempt, for politics.

Unlike the majority of mankind, he welcomes new things, fresh ideas, novelties do not cause him to shrink. His share, for instance, in the great use of the tanks is scarcely appreciated; the newness would have appalled most men. It is that quality of mind that makes him invaluable on the western front to-day.

In domestic life Sir Douglas Haig is a devoted father. The mutual affection that exists between him and his two children is idealistic. It is that human element in him that makes him so jealous of the lives of the soldiers he commands. I think the power of seeing through the uniform to the father who wears it is always with him.—"Daily Mail."

A "FOOD OR PEACE" DEMAND.

The Swiss correspondent of the Paris

"Humanité" sends a message to his paper concerning a recent demonstration in Dresden. For the first time, apparently, in the existence of the German Empire, a Minister of the Crown has thought fit to receive a Socialist deputation, which laid before him a series of protests.

The deputation was accompanied by several thousand people (the Swiss Press puts the figure at 80,000) who waited patiently outside whilst the discussion was going on in the Ministry of the Interior. "Humanité's" correspondent says that the German Press scarcely mentions the matter; nor has the Wolff Agency shown any interest in the event. The official organ of the Saxon Government, the "Sächsischer Staatsanzeiger," simply states that the Minister of the Interior received a deputation of the free trade unions and Socialist Democratic organisations, which "presented to the Minister the wishes of the working population in the matter of food supplies," and that the Minister promised that the Government would do all that it could to alleviate their condition, pointing out that their sufferings were entirely due "to the inhuman methods of war of Germany's enemies," and that to obtain a peace it was necessary to "work, fight, and conquer."

Not a word is said about the demonstrations in the streets. As a matter of fact, a great number of works had to close down that afternoon, because the workpeople had announced their intention of taking part in the demonstration, which began at two o'clock. The spokesman was Hermann Fleissner, a Socialist deputy of the Saxon Diet. He told the Minister of the Interior that the deputation had come to point out to the Government the gravity of the situation in the food question. Energetic measures were needed. But, he added, none of these measures can settle definitely this question: the only efficacious solution is the conclusion of peace. "In the name of the deputation, and certainly in agreement with the overwhelming majority of the German people, I am obliged to ask the Saxon Government urgently to bring pressure to bear in this direction on the Imperial Government."

During the interview the crowd outside swelled to enormous dimensions, says the correspondent, and it hailed Fleissner's return with a great ovation. The whole following then proceeded to the Town Hall, where the Mayor assured the deputation that it was impossible for the authorities to obtain food for the people.

"In that case," said Fleissner, "you ought to stop the war." Afterwards the crowd dispersed in the most perfect order.

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A MIRACLE TOWN. MAKING FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY GUNS.

[BY SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE.]

One of the miracles of present-day Britain is a place which we will call Moorside. Perhaps it is the most remarkable place in the world. Only a little more than a year ago, say September 1915, it was a lonely peat bog fringing the sea, with a hinterland of peat bogs and moorland. Then the great hand of the Minister of Munitions was stretched out to this lonely and inhospitable waste, for it chanced to lie with good rail and water connections and not too remote from centres of coal and of iron. No money and no master builders took charge of the whole great scheme.

It is a story which is more characteristic of Western America than of our sober British methods. The work went forward by day and by night. The place grew and grew, and in a year it was already a town of nine good miles one way with an average of one and a half the other. In the daytime there are at least 25,000 busy inhabitants. The greater part are the builders who still extend the township. The smaller are the munition workers who will occupy all what is left. But even now in its partially finished state its products are essential to the war, and its output has entirely changed all the supply of the present and the expectations of the future. It is not yet fully manned—30,000 men are needed, but when that number is reached it will be a town of 50,000. It will be running the miles of factories which overlie the peat bog of last summer.

THE RAW MATERIAL END.

And it is not jerry-built—that is the wonder of it. In the centre of the Colony is a considerable nucleus of solid brick houses, which should be good for a century or more. There are the main offices, the telephone stations, the club for the staff (club spriters would describe the inmates better than club loungers in those strenuous parts), the hospital, the cinema theatre, a row of shops, and a cluster of residential houses. Radiating out from this centre are long lines of wooden erections to hold the workers' cottages for married couples, bungalows for groups of girls, and hostels, which hold as many as 70 in each. This central settlement is where the people live, not far from it where they work.

The one end may be called the raw material end, for all raw material needed is manufactured upon the spot. Here is a huge nitric acid plant. There further to the right is an even larger sulphuric acid installation. Some one—no must have been a chemist and probably a German—has said that the civilisation of a nation can be measured by the amount of sulphuric acid which they use. Greece or Rome would come badly out of such a test, and I fear that for civilisation prosperity, which may be its excuse, it is to be read. But this, the town on the peat bog, has as a fact about doubled the British output of this basic substance.

Hard by are the wide buildings where the raw cotton is stored, where the crude glycerine is refined, where the ether and alcohol are distilled, and where finally the perfect gunpowder is completed. Thence by little trains it is conveyed over yonder to that rising ground, which is called Nitro-glycerine Hill. You probably don't know it—certainly I did not—but glycerine cannot be pumped and so to move it along the road old priming the force of gravity is summoned. Hence the Nitro-glycerine Hill. There the nitro-glycerine on the one side and the gunpowder on the other are kneaded together into a sort of devil's porridge. This is the next stage of manufacture. This, by the way, is where the danger may cause an explosion. These smiling khaki-clad girls who are swirling the stuff round in their hands would be blown to atoms in an instant if certain rules were not observed. The girls will fill a narrow margin here between life and death. It is only constant order and care which keep the frontier intact.

Look at these great lead basins and pipes in which the stuff is mixed. How is the lead to be kept from the girls? Here is one of those queer little romances with which the history of industry abounds. Solder is impossible. The acids would dissolve it. Lead must be welded to lead. It is a raw and difficult trade, one that is handed on from father to son and held close in a family circle. A lead-burner is a man of power, a man to be approached with offerings and prayers when a job is to be done. His purity and his exclusiveness were one of the difficulties which had to be met. He had to be liked by others, with his mystery and his hold on his own mind. He was a patriot like his fellows. Anyhow the thing was done, these great lead tanks with their welded pipes will show. The lead must be as smooth as silk too upon the inner side. You are dealing with heat, and tempering stuff.

HELPER TO BEAT KUTUP. When I saw these enormous works and the evidences of lavish expenditure, I ventured to ask those in authority how the State was to get its money back when, in the dim and distant future, the new world would be ruined and disorganised by the war coming to an end. Was, that old patient peat bog, waiting so silently below, to finally engulf the millions of the taxpayer? The reply was reassuring. "All that I had seen up to that point was a good asset and of permanent value. It was all concerned with stuff which the area of peace could readily absorb."

But now we went to the further end, where this devil's porridge, which we have traced is finally seasoned into the fit food for our hungry guns. How hungry these guns are our minds can hardly conceive. We can only hear the roar of the guns, and there we saw that is what these laughing khaki-clad girls of Moorside and elsewhere are going to do. Hats off to the women of Britain! Ever all the exertions of the militants shall not in future prevent me from being an advocate for their vote, for those who have helped to save the State should be allowed to help to guide it.

To the further end did we go then, passing great power-houses and central controls upon the way (please don't forget, as you read, the old peat bog was pressing and smothering and stuff like brown sugar being squeezed into brown macaroni and finally dried into black liquorice sticks, which are cut up and blended, so as to get a standard strength. Here expansion is needed for a quantity.

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cause. Girls have been known, out of love for Tommy, to put an extra pinch in the brew, with the result, of course, of entirely upsetting its ballistic qualities. We take it for granted that a summer shooting at three miles can speedily range on a mere slit in the ground. I saw with my own eyes a house at 6,000 yards lifted off the face of the earth at the fourth round. When you see the girls blending the stuff with the finest care, to get the absolute standard, you begin to understand what lies behind it.

So much for the actual manufacture. I have said nothing of a military guard of over 1,000 men, factory police, work-maniacs women police, central bakeries, with 400 women loafers at a baking, central laundries, central kitchens with 4,000 rations going out at every meal, cashiers, who pay away £200 an hour in wages. And all this with the primeval ooze lying in stagnant pools around, the remains of the wilderness of September twenty months ago. I made out a case for my assertion that Moorside is one of the wonder spots of earth, as showing what man's brain and man's energy can effect. It is but one of nearly 40 which are working on similar tasks, but it is the newest, the largest, and the most remarkable.

And whodid it all! This soldier gets his mention, why not these picked generals of industry behind the line? Those in authority we know, to them be all credit. But what about the men on the spot, the men who dug into the peat bog, who sank the foundations, who raised the town, who ran the works, who organised the plant which in one item alone, that of ether, which produces more in a month than all pre-war Britain in a year. Alas, that their names may not be mentioned. They come from all parts of the British Empire, but especially from overseas. The magic builder who guides the army of 15,000 workers is Mr. P. an Englishman. Beside him are a little band of enthusiasts upon explosives, drawn from all ends of the Empire. At one end a Britisher, glycerine Hill it changed that every man present was a South African. There is a "Q," an American by nationality, a South African in experience, a man with a drive like a steam piston. There is a "G," also of South Africa; there is a "B," of India; there is a "L," of Australia, and then is Major C. on the military, and Mr. H. on the financial side. These are some of the miracle-workers of Moorside.

There are two hampering difficulties which will no doubt be overcome, like all else, but which have held matters back. They are drink and labour. As to the latter, The Labour unions have acted in a way which calls for the acknowledgment and gratitude of the nation. What they had won during a long and weary fight they renounced for the sake of their country. It is among the great sacrifices of the war, and full faith should be kept with them afterwards.

THE PERENNIAL QUESTION. But the faulty national teaching of all these years cannot be eradicated in individuals. There is still a lurking feeling that patriotism is an affair of politics and a tendency to think of one's own cause and advantage rather than the country's need. "There are splendid fellows among them, but on the whole the girls are more patriotic than the men." That was the conclusion of one who knew. Perhaps it is that a man's patriotism is a more silent emotion. Let us hope so.

And, lastly, there is the perennial question of the drink. There also the girls have an enormous advantage. There is no much drinking among the munition workers here. Their conditions are regular and comfortable. The drinking is rather among the great mass of outside workers, who are less under discipline, and who live under less comfortable conditions, so that there is some excuse for their turning to the light and warmth and temporary exhilaration of the public-house. It is true that the Board of Control stops the sale in the immediate district, but there are considerable towns a few miles away. I have always thought, and I still think that if light and heat were permitted as a safety valve, the sale and even the manufacture of spirits could and should be forbidden. Such a change would be full payment for all that the war has cost us.

But there is no need to end this description on a critical note. After all, it is not a drink-sodden or degenerate community which does such things. We have our difficulties. Drink is among them. But they affect a minority, and in very different degrees. Does any one suppose that Germany has not her own difficulties, much heavier than ours? One comes away from Moorside marveling at the adaptability of the nation, at its power of brain and energy, and at the promise which all these qualities give for our future place among mankind.

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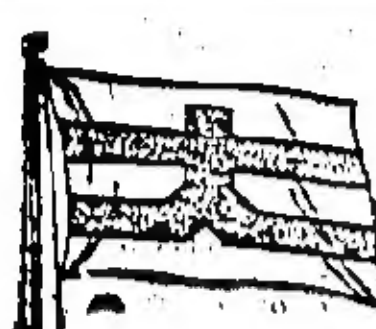
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ADVANCE ON KUT.

"EYE-WITNESS" STORY.

CAVALRY IN ACTION.

The following telegram, received from "Eye-Witness" in Mesopotamia, dated "On the banks of the Shatt-al-Hai near Kut, 19th December, is published in the Indian papers."

We advanced on the night of the 13th to the Shatt-al-Hai, the cavalry crossing at Esruyeh, and the infantry further up stream at three fords in the neighbourhood of Atab. The night march across perfectly flat country, with no landmarks, was carried out smoothly without a hitch. The infantry and cavalry reached their objectives at the exact time. The infantry crossed at 3-45, the cavalry at dawn on the morning of the 14th, within an hour our pioneers were building up ramps. Two pontoon bridges were thrown across, and enemy outposts were brushed away. The Hai is a hidden river bordered by low scrub. It is nearly stagnant now, and in places dry. Fords are numerous, but treacherous; and one or two transport carts were caught in the quicksands; the water was only six inches deep where we crossed. The cavalry, after crossing, swept the west bank clear of the enemy. At 10 A.M. the Hai, on the Shatt-al-Hai, within two miles of the Tigris. The Turks held this position until the cavalry were within 300 yards, but were driven out of their trenches. The infantry on the east bank were thus protected from enfilade fire, and they advanced and consolidated the ground gained. The main body of cavalry then rushed on to the Shumran bridge on the Tigris, six miles upstream of Kut. Advanced patrols reached a point within 300 yards of the bridges. Our casualties during the day were inconsiderable.

IRON AEROPLANE WORK.

On the night of the 14th-15th our aeroplanes flew over Kut by moonlight, and dropped bombs on the enemy's bridge, as it was being towed upstream in sections. The pontoons were cast adrift, and scattered; and during the next day the Turks were unable to transfer troops across the river, except by ferrying. Throughout the operations our flying corps have put in excellent work in reconnaissance and gun marking, and have engaged and driven back hostile aeroplanes. One of our machines was brought down by a bullet which broke a strut, it descended between our cavalry and Shumran Bridgehead, and was shot by the guns it had just been observing. The aviators escaped unhurt, and the machine was brought in without injury to the engine.

FURTHER ADVANCE.

On the 15th we advanced up the Shatt-al-Hai, and to within three or four miles of the Tigris. S. D. K. and now occupy a line astride the Hai. This objective has been gained very cheaply, the large proportion of casualties being only slightly wounded.

On the 15th we pushed forward our outposts, 4,000 yards west of the Hai. In the morning a considerable force of Turkish irregulars was observed advancing on this bank from a south-westerly direction. One body of them came upon machine-gun fire and forced to retire, when they saw our infantry advancing. The situation on the left bank of the Tigris remains unchanged. On the morning of the 14th, while the column was advancing to Shatt-al-Hai our artillery heavily bombarded Turkish trenches at Sanna-Lyat. The bulk of the Turkish troops are on the left bank of the river.

THE PROSPECT OF KUT.

The troops are in good spirits to be on the move again after a long summer and autumn halt. Our advance over the Hai has carried us seven miles beyond the farthest outposts we held at Imam-Li-Hanusi, and we are now able to observe Kut from the west and watch the people gazing at us from their roofs. The town, seen from our camp less than three miles distant, has a compact and solid appearance, like a cliff or rock in the desert. The white houses against a dark background of palms resemble scattered chalk cliffs, and one tall minaret is standing, a heap of mud bricks, if we liked. The weather has been most favourable for operations; the sun is strong at midday, the nights keen with slight hoar frost. The heavy rain which fell all day on the 17th, though imposing movements at the time, has proved most opportune, a welcome interval between mud and dust. The ground is dry and hard, thus facilitating the work of transport.

WHAT THE RISE IN

PRICES MEANS.

AN AUSTRALIAN OPINION.

All the world is at the present juncture deeply concerned at the enormous and even unprecedented advance which has occurred in prices, says a Sydney exchange. At the present date the rise in England is estimated at 80 per cent. as compared with about 30 per cent. in Australia. This difference appears remarkable, but there is not been a rise of the same magnitude in foods here which has occurred in Europe. There a veritable shortage has declared itself, and if it is not grappled with comprehensively it would be courting disaster. The ordinary channels of supply have broken down, owing, of course, to the war and the commandeering and loss of ships, and a vast and systematic purchase, appears to be inevitable. Such difficulties have always occurred during great wars. They were strongly in evidence during the Napoleonic Wars and in the remarkable succession of conflicts from 1854 to 1871, the rise in British prices amounted to over 40 per cent. Now there is upon us a war in comparison with which those previous conflicts have paled, and this effect upon prices has been upon a commensurate scale. Nothing could have prevented the advance. It is not only due to the absorption of labour and the destruction in great producing areas but capital is absorbed and the goods necessary for the world's requirements cannot be marketed without the employment of much capital.

The countries which can produce most of what Europe must purchase are those which will come best out of the ordeal. But while America, Canada, Argentina, and even New Zealand and Japan, have been reaping rich harvests, Australia has been standing still. We have the burdens of war upon us, without those recompenses which it offers, and which rival countries are securing. The rise in prices in Europe and throughout the world affords us an opportunity, and good seasons here and bad seasons in America are materially assisting Australian prospects. Under such conditions it is doubly lamentable to find that brought to a standstill, and shipping frightened from our shores, and the advocates of "go slow" following it up with resolutions of "stand idle." While the exports of all our rivals in production have bounded upward—those from Canada have been troubled during the war—ours, so far, have even diminished.

What deplorable comparison, it is now becoming evident, need not continue longer, for the time has arrived when our production is urgently needed, and if Australia faces the new position wholeheartedly in the coming year she can gain a rich reward. There will be ample work for all willing to work. This is the worst of times for Government stroke; the best for producers and for the delivery of goods. It is not only wheat, or wool, but meats of all kinds, hides and skins, tallow, leather, butter and cheese, metals of all descriptions, jams—all are in extreme request, and at what may even be designated fabulous prices. What is more, it is in evidence that the ships are coming. If Australian labour will load them. We are in a position to supply the goods, which America and the rest of the world cannot do. We possess what Europe must have and can get in "very insufficient" quantities elsewhere until the Russian markets are re-opened. But instead of making the most of that opportunity we are going the right way to make the least of it.

Fifty sons of members of the Canadian House of Commons and Senate are serving the Empire in the Army or Navy. Fifteen members sent two sons and "one three sons to the front."

"We are still children in matters of international finance," a leading Wall-street banker is quoted as saying. "The income of Great Britain for a single year would pay off the first Anglo-French loan 24 times. We must become educated to conditions outside the United States."

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